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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/378,526	08/20/1999	STEPHEN IREMONGER	CLARP026/P24	9248

22434	7590	05/06/2004

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EXAMINER
YUAN, ALMARI ROMERO

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2176	15

DATE MAILED: 05/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

		Application No.		Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary		09/378,526		IREMONGER ET AL.
		Examiner		Art Unit
		Almari Yuan		2176

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _17 February 2004_.

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) _1-12,15-23,26-34 and 36-43_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) _1-12,15-23,26-34 and 36-43_ is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is responsive to communications: Amendment filed on 2/17/04.

2.   The rejection of claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply

with the enablement requirement has been withdrawn as necessitated by amendment.

3.   The rejection of claims 1-38 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Lotus has

been withdrawn as necessitated by amendment.

4.   Claims 13, 14, 24, 25, and 35 are canceled. Claims 39-43 are newly added. Claims 1-12,

15-23, 26-34, and 36-43 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 17, and 31 are independent claims.

Specification

5.   The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: On page 1, "Cross-

Reference to Related Application" section of the specification. Applicant is reminded to insert

related applications serial numbers and the status of each application, if allowed or in patent

prosecution.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

7.   **Claims 1-12, 15-23, 26-34, 36-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being**

unpatentable over Habraken, Joe, "Using Lotus SmartSuite Millennium Edition", 09/1998,

Que Corporation, pages 337-340 and pages 411-425 (herein after "Lotus") in view of

Wright, Jr. (USPN 5,704, 029 – issued 12/1997 herein after "Wright").

Regarding independent claims 17 and 31, Lotus discloses:

A method for creating a report layout for data stored in a database (on pages 412 and 414:

teaches creating a report), said method comprising:

(a) performing an interview sequence, by a database program to obtain organization

information (on pages 414-415, see figure 24.4: teaches Report Assistant (interview sequence)

walks you through the steps of creating a new report with fields from a database)

the organization information including at least a list of fields (on pages 414-416, see

figure 24.5: teaches the Report Assistant helps you to pick the fields from a list of fields from the

current or appropriate database to be included in the report)

and at least one summary field for the report or layout, the at least one summary field (on

page 417, see figure 24.7: teaches summary field) being associated with at least one of the fields

in the list of fields (on page 415, see figure 24.5: teaches the list of fields in figure 24.5 is

associated with the fields on page 417, figure 24.7),

the report layout including a plurality of parts including a header area, a grand total area,

a summary area, a body area, and a footer area (on page 418, see figure 24.8: shows header, body

and summary on a report, on page 424, see figure 24.14: shows grand total on a report, and on

page 425: teaches footer on a report layout); and

(b) automatically creating the report layout based on the interview sequence (on page

414: teaches creating a report using database using the Report Assistant (interview sequence) and

pages 417-415, see figure 24.8: teaches a completed report with organized information) said

creating includes placing the summary field (on page 417, see figure 24.7: teaches summary

field) in at least one of the grand total area (on page 424, see figure 24.14: shows grand total on a

report) and the summary area (on page 418, see figure 24.8: shows summary area), and placing

the fields in the list of fields in the body area (on page 418, see figure 24.8: shows body area).

However, Lotus does not explicitly disclose "database program capable of accessing the

data stored in the database" and "automatically generating the script when it is determined during

the interview sequence" and "script when executed allows another report or layout to be

automatically generated".

Wright discloses "database program capable of accessing the data stored in the database",

on col. 14, lines 1-31 teaches form data is saved to be retrieved where it is available for use with

spreadsheets, databases, and other programs; "automatically generating the script when it is

determined during the interview sequence", on col. 9, lines 11-26 and lines 60-60 and col. 14,

lines 53-65 teaches using Design menu for creating form fields; when the user is prompt for a

field type, the user can select Script because the form will fill in automatically using the script;

and "script when executed allows another report or layout to be automatically generated", on col.

13, lines 39-42 teaches the script running under the forms engine which controls the form

execution to automatically guide a user through the form.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Wright into Lotus to provide a way to retrieve stored data

and automatically generate a script and using the script to allow the form to fill in automatically

with data, as taught by Wright, incorporated into the report/layout creation system of Lotus, in

order to accurately, quickly and completely fill-in an electronic form.

Regarding dependent claim 18, Lotus discloses:

wherein when the summary field is a subtotal, said creating (b) places the subtotal in the

summary area (on page 424, see figure 24.14: shows subtotals in a summary area).

Regarding dependent claim 19, Lotus discloses:

wherein the subtotal in placed in the summary area at a position corresponding to the

position as the associated one of the fields placed in the body (on page 418, see figure 24.8:

shows subtotals in the summary area same position as the fields in the body area).

Regarding dependent claim 20, Lotus discloses:

wherein the subtotal is placed in the summary area in the same column location in the

report layout as the one of the fields placed in the body that corresponds thereto (on page 418,

see figure 24.8: shows subtotal is in the summary area in the same column as the other fields).

Regarding dependent claim 21, Lotus discloses:

wherein when the summary field is to grand total summary field, said creating (b) places

the grand total in the grand total area (on page 424, see figure 24.14: shows grand total from

the calculations of all the subtotals and a grand total area).

Regarding dependent claim 22, Lotus discloses:

wherein the grand total summary field is placed in the grand total area at a position

corresponding to the position as the associated one of the fields placed in the body (on page 424,

see figure 24.14: shows grand total area with a grand total value; the grand total can be

positioned by the user as the fields are positioned in the body).

Regarding dependent claim 23, Lotus discloses:

wherein the grand total summary field is placed in the grand total area in the same

column location in the report layout as the one of the fields placed in the body that corresponds

thereto (on pages 418 and 424, see figures 24.8 and 24.14: the grand total area can be placed by

the user in the same column as the fields placed in the body).

Regarding dependent claim 26, Lotus discloses:

wherein the organization information further includes sort fields for the report or layout

(on page 421: teaches sorting fields in the report).

Regarding dependent claim 27, Lotus discloses:

wherein said method further comprises: (c) producing a report for the data using the

report layout (on page 412 and on page 415: teaches creating a report using a layout).

Regarding dependent claim 28, Lotus discloses:

wherein said producing (c) sorts the data in accordance with the sort fields for the report

(on page 421, see figure 24.11: teaches sorting data with the sorted fields in a report)

Regarding dependent claim 29, Lotus discloses:

wherein the organization information further includes a theme selection for the report

layout (on page 415: teaches selecting style for the report layout).

Regarding dependent claim 30, Lotus discloses:

wherein the organizational information includes at least first and second of summary

fields (on page 417, see figure 24.7: teaches summary fields), the first summary field is a grand

total summary field (on page 424, see figure 24.14: shows grand total on a report) and the

second summary field is summary field (on page 424, see figure 24.14: shows summary fields),

and wherein said creating (b) of the report layout comprises: (b1) placing the first summary field

in the grand total area (on page 424, see figure 24.14: shows grand total value in a grand total

area on a report); (b2) placing the second summary field in the summaries area (on page 418, see

figure 24.8: shows summary area), and (b3) placing the fields in the list of fields in the body area

(on page 418, see figure 24.8: shows body area).

Regarding dependent claim 32, Lotus discloses:

wherein the organization information further includes header or footer information for the

layout or report, the header or footer information including at least one of a logo and custom text

(on pages 423-425: teaches header and foots where the user can customized text).

Regarding dependent claim 33, Lotus discloses:

wherein the organization information further includes a category that identifies the field

on which the report layout is organized (on page 421, see figure 24.11: shows department

(category) on the report).

Regarding dependent claim 34, Lotus discloses:

wherein the organization information further includes a plurality of categories that are

ordered, and the categories identify the fields and a hierarchy on which the report layout is

organized (on page 421, see figure 24.11: shows first name, last name, department (plurality of

categories) are ordered by the user when creating the report).

Regarding dependent claim 36, Lotus discloses:

computer program code for placing the summary field in at least one of the grand total

area (on page 424, see figure 24.14: shows grand total value in a grand total area on a report) and

the summary area and placing the fields in the list of fields in the body area; (b2) placing the

second summary field in the summaries area (on page 418, see figure 24.8: shows summary

area), and (b3) placing the fields in the list of fields in the body area (on page 418, see figure

24.8: shows body area).

Regarding dependent claim 37, Lotus discloses:

wherein the summary field is a subtotal or a grand total of the data in the associated fields

(on page 418, see figure 24.8 shows subtotals and on page 424, see figure 24.14 shows grand

total of all subtotals).

Regarding dependent claim 38, Lotus discloses:

wherein the summary field provides one of a total, count, average, minimum, and

maximum of the data for the field associated with the summary field (on pages 416-417: teaches

average, count, maximum, minimum, Sum (Total) for summary calculation).

Regarding independent claim 1, Lotus discloses:

A method for creating a report or layout for data stored in a database (on pages 412 and 414:

teaches creating a report), said method comprising:

(a) performing an interview sequence to obtain organization information associated with

the database (on pages 414-415, see figure 24.4: teaches Report Assistant (interview sequence)

walks you through the steps of creating a new report with fields from a database)

the organization information including at least a list of fields defined for the database (on

pages 414-416, see figure 24.5: teaches the Report Assistant helps you to pick the fields from a

list of fields from the current or appropriate database to be included in the report)

and at least one summary field for the report or layout, the at least one summary field (on

page 417, see figure 24.7: teaches summary field) being associated with at least one of the fields

in the list of fields (on page 415, see figure 24.5: teaches the list of fields in figure 24.5 is

associated with the fields on page 417, figure 24.7),

wherein the database program performs the interview sequence, the database program

being capable of accessing the data stored in the database (on pages 414-415, see figure 24.4:

teaches Report Assistant (interview sequence) to create reports from a single database or joined

databases);

(b) automatically creating the report or layout based on the organization information

obtained by the database program through the interview sequence, wherein the database program

operates to automatically create the report or layout (on page 414: teaches creating a report using

database using the Report Assistant (interview sequence) and pages 417-415, see figure 24.8:

teaches a completed report with organized information).

However, Lotus does not explicitly disclose "automatically generating the script when it

is determined during the interview sequence" and "script when executed allows another report or

layout to be automatically generated".

Wright discloses "automatically generating the script when it is determined during the

interview sequence", on col. 9, lines 11-26 and lines 60-60 and col. 14, lines 53-65 teaches using

Design menu for creating form fields; when the user is prompt for a field type, the user can select

Script because the form will fill in automatically using the script; and "script when executed

allows another report or layout to be automatically generated", on col. 13, lines 39-42 teaches the

script running under the forms engine which controls the form execution to automatically guide a

user through the form.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Wright into Lotus to provide a way to retrieve stored data

and automatically generate a script and using the script to allow the form to fill in automatically

with data, as taught by Wright, incorporated into the report/layout creation system of Lotus, in

order to accurately, quickly and completely fill-in an electronic form.

Regarding dependent claims 2 and 11, Lotus discloses:

wherein the summary field is a subtotal or a grand total of the data in the associated fields

(on page 418, see figure 24.8 shows subtotals and on page 424, see figure 24.14 shows grand

total of all subtotals).

Regarding dependent claims 3 and 12, Lotus discloses:

wherein the summary field provides one of a total, count, average, minimum, and

maximum of the data for the field associated with the summary field (on pages 416-417: teaches

average, count, maximum, minimum, Sum (Total) for summary calculation).

Regarding dependent claim 4, Lotus discloses:

wherein the list of fields is an ordered list of fields (on page 416, see figure 24.5: teaches

list of fields are ordered from the database).

Regarding dependent claims 5 and 6, Lotus discloses:

wherein the organization information further includes a style for the layout or report (on

page 415: teaches selecting style for the report).

Regarding dependent claim 7, Lotus discloses:

wherein the style for the layout or report identifies particular characteristics for the layout

or report including a plurality of background color, text size, text font, text style, and other colors

(on page 418, page 420, and page 423, see figure 24.12: teaches the report attributes can be

changed; such attributes may include color, character, border attributes).

Regarding dependent claims 8-10, the limitations of claims 8-10 are a method for processing in

the computer readable medium of claims 32-34 and are rejected under the same rationale.

Regarding dependent claim 15, Lotus discloses:

wherein the organization information further includes sort fields for the report or layout

(on page 421: teaches sorting fields in the report).

Regarding dependent claim 16, Lotus discloses:

wherein the report or layout has a plurality of parts, the parts including header, grand

total, summary, body, and footer (on page 418, see figure 24.8: shows header, body and

summary, on page 424, see figure 24.14: shows grand total, and on page 425: teaches footer).

8.   **Claims 39-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lotus**

and Wright, as applied to claims 1-12, 15-23, 26-34, 36-38 above, further in view of

Meadhra et al., "Lotus SmartSuite Millennium Edition for Dummies", 1998, IDG Books

Worldwide, Inc., pages 240-252 (herein after "Meadhra") (this reference was cited from

IDS submitted on 4/18/00).

Regarding dependent claims 39-43, Lotus discloses the invention substantially as claimed as

described above. However, Lotus does not explicitly disclose "generating leading grand total, a

leading sub-summary, a trailing sub-summary, and a trailing grand total".

Meadhra on pages 240-252 teaches and shows the creation of a report using a Report

Assistant and wherein a typical report is seen in a Design view (Page 246, see Figure 15-9)

showing more than one Leading summary, Body, and the Trailing summary right next to the

Totals.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Meadhra into Lotus to provide the creation of a report

using a Report Assistant to generate Leading summaries, Trailing Summaries and Totals, as

taught by Meadhra, incorporated into the report/form creation of Lotus and Wright, in order for

the user to organize their data enhancing the view of the created report.

Response to Arguments

9.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-12, 15-23, 26-34, 36-43 have been

considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

10.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this

Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this

final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Almari Yuan whose telephone number is 703-305-5945. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays - Fridays (8:30am - 5:00pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Feild, can be reached on 703-305-9792. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

AY
April 29, 2004

JOSEPH FEILD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER